

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14, 16, and 18-21 were pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6, 16, and 20 have been amended herein, support for which can be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. New claims 22-26 have also been added herein. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-12, 14, 16, and 18-26 will be pending.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants will endeavor to refile the Information Disclosure Statement (referred to at page 2 of the Office Action) with copies of the relevant references in due course.

In addition, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Groups I and II will be examined together. Applicants have amended the claims to delete non-elected subject matter.

Applicants have also amended the Abstract to shorten its content as suggested by the Examiner.

I. The Claimed Invention Is Novel

Claims 1-11, 14, 19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication US 20040267028 (hereinafter, the “Smith reference”). Applicants traverse the rejection and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amended claims.

The Smith reference does not teach every feature recited in the claims, as amended herein. In addition, the Smith reference does not teach every feature recited in new claims 22-26. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. An early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (215) 665-6914 if there are any questions regarding Applicants' claimed invention.

Respectfully submitted,

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